MAIL TO:

Invitation to Bid

STATE OF UTAH
DIVISION OF PURCHASING
3150 STATE OFFICE BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL
P.O. BOX 141061
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84114-1061
TELEPHONE (801) 538-3026
http://purchasing.utah.gov



Solicitation Number: PM5012

Due Date: 08/31/04 @ 2:00 P.M.

Date Sent: August 3, 2004

Goods and services to be

RECLAMATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT - CIRCLE CLIFFS PROJECT-GARFIELD COUNTY

Please complete

Company Name		Federal Tax Identification Number		
Ordering Address	City	State	Zip Code	
Remittance Address (if different from ordering address)	City	State	Zip Code	
Type ☐ Corporation ☐ Partnership Proprietorship Government	Company Contact Person			
Telephone Number (include area code)	Fax Number (include area code)			
Company's Internet Web Address	Email Address			
Discount Terms (for bid purposes, bid discounts less than 30 days will not be considered)	Days Required for Delivery After Receipt of Order (see attached for any required minimums)			
The following documents are included in this solicitation: Solicitations. Please review all documents carefully before co		and gener	al provisions, and	
The undersigned certifies that the goods or services offered are produced, mined, grown, manufactured, or performed in Utah. Yes No If no, enter where produced, etc				
Offeror's Authorized Representative's Signature	Date			
Type or Print Name	Position or Title			

STATE OF UTAH DIVISION OF PURCHASING

Invitation to Bid

Solicitation Number: PM5012

Due Date: 08/31/04

Vendor Name:

Description

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIV. OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING IS SOLICITING BIDS FOR THE CIRCLE CLIFFS RECLAMATION CONSTRUCTION IN GARFIELD COUNTY, UTAH.

THE WORK CONSISTS OF RECLAMATION CONSTRUCTION AT THE CIRCLE CLIFFS WITHIN THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE GRAND STAIRCASE ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT LOCATED IN GARFIELD COUNTY, UTAH. THE WORK INCLUDES CLOSURE OF 46 MINE OPENINGS, BACKFILLING DRILL HOLES AND REVEGETATION OF ALL DISTURBED AREAS. DETAILS OF THE WORK ARE CONTAINED IN THE SPECIFICATIONS.

SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIV. OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING. 1594 WEST NORTH TEMPLE, SUITE 1210, SALT LAKE CITY, UT., FOR A NON-REFUNDABLE FEE OF TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20.00). CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING OR SPECIFICATIONS CAN BE DOWNLOADED IN PDF FORMAT FROM THE DIV. OF OIL, GAS AND MINING'S WEB SITE: http://dogm.nr.state.ut.us/PUB/MINES/AMR/A017/906/.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID MEETING WILL BE HELD FOR ALL BIDDERS AT 10:00 A.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2004. MEET AT THE PULLOUT AT THE CREST OF THE CIRCLE CLIFFS AREA ON THE BURR TRAIL ROAD 16.3 MILES EAST OF BOULDER, UTAH. THE MEETING IS EXPECTED TO LAST MOST OF THE DAY AND WILL INVOLVE DRIVING AND HIKING OVER RUGGED TERRAIN. THIS MEETING IS OPTIONAL. BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL NATURE OF ABANDONED MINE CLOSURE WORK, BIDDERS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE PRE-BID MEETING.

A 5% BID BOND WILL BE REQUIRED AT THE TIME OF BID SUBMITTAL. AND A 100% PERFORMANCE/PAYMENT BOND WILL BE REQUIRED OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER. PLEASE COMPLETE A BOND STATEMENT AND SUBMIT ALONG WITH YOUR BID.

ANY MODIFICATION TO THIS PROCUREMENT EFFORT SHALL BE MADE IN WRITING BY ADDENDUM ISSUED BY THE STATE DIVISION OF PURCHASING. ONLY AUTHORIZED AND PROPERLY ISSUED ADDENDA SHALL CONSTITUTE THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE STATE AND SHALL BE BINDING. ANYONE SUBMITTING A RESPONSE TO THIS SOLICITATION, WITH BASIS IN OR ON OTHER COMMUNICATION OR INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN THROUGH OFFICIAL ADDENDUM, ASSUMES FULL RISK INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A DETERMINATION OF NON-RESPONSIVENESS AND MAY BE REJECTED AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE STATE.

FOR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AND/OR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SPECIFICATIONS PLEASE CONTACT KEN WYATT, PROJECT MANAGER @ (801) 538-5266 OR EMAIL: kenwyatt@utah.gov.

FOR BID PROCESSING QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT PAUL MASH @ (801) 538-3138.

REF RX#560 52000000001

INVITATION TO BID - INSTRUCTION AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1. BID PREPARATION: (a) All prices and notations must be in ink or typewritten. (b) Price each item separately. Unit price shall be shown and a total price shall be entered for each item bid. Errors may be crossed out and corrections printed in ink or typewritten adjacent and must be initialed in ink by person signing quotation. (c) Unit price will govern, if there is an error in the extension. (d) Delivery time is critical and must be adhered to as specified. (e) Wherever in this document an item is defined by using a trade name of a manufacturer and/or model number, it is intended that the words, "or equivalent" apply. "Or equivalent" means any other brand that is equal in use, quality, economy and performance to the brand listed as determined by the Division of Purchasing & General Services (DIVISION). If the vendor lists a trade name and/or catalog number in the bid, the DIVISION will assume the item meets the specifications unless the bid clearly states it is an alternate, and describes specifically how it differs from the item specified. All bids must include complete manufacturer's descriptive literature if quoting an equivalent product. All products are to be of new, unused condition, unless otherwise requested in this solicitation. (f) By signing the bid the vendor certifies that all of the information provided is accurate, that they are willing and able to furnish the item(s) specified, and that prices quoted are correct. (g) This bid may not be withdrawn for a period of 60 days from bid due date.
- 2. SUBMITTING THE BID: (a) The bid must be signed in ink, sealed in a properly-addressed envelope, and either mailed or delivered to the DIVISION OF PURCHASING, 3150 State Office Building, Capitol Hill, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-1061 by the "Due Date and Time." The "Bid Number" and "Due Date" must appear on the outside of the envelope. (b) Bids, modifications, or corrections received after the closing time on the "Due Date" will be considered late and handled in accordance with the Utah Procurement Rules, section R33-3-109. (c) Your bid will be considered only if it is submitted on the forms provided by the state. Facsimile transmission of bids to DIVISION will not be considered. (d) All prices quoted must be both F.O.B. Origin per paragraph 1.(c) and F.O.B. Destination. Additional charges including but not limited to delivery, drayage, express, parcel post, packing, cartage, insurance, license fees, permits, costs of bonds, or for any other purpose must be included in the bid for consideration and approval by the DIVISION. Upon award of the contract, the shipping terms will be F.O.B. Destination, Freight Prepaid with freight charges to be added to the invoice unless otherwise specified by the DIVISION.
- 3. **SOLICITATION AMENDMENTS:** All changes to this solicitation will be made through written addendum only. Bidders are cautioned not to consider verbal modifications.
- 4. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION: Suppliers are required to mark any specific information contained in their bid which is not to be disclosed to the public or used for purposes other than the evaluation of the bid. Each request for nondisclosure must to be accompanied by a specific justification explaining why the information is to be protected. Pricing and service elements of any bid will not to be considered proprietary. Bids submitted may to be reviewed and evaluated by any persons at the discretion of the state.
- **5. SAMPLES:** Samples of item(s) specified in this bid, when required by DIVISION, must to be furnished free of charge to DIVISION. Any item not destroyed by tests may, upon request made at the time the sample is furnished, to be returned at the bidder's expense.
- **6. WARRANTY:** The contractor agrees to warrant and assume responsibility for all products (including hardware, firmware, and/or software products) that it licenses, contracts, or sells to the State of Utah under this contract for a period of one year, unless otherwise specified and mutually agreed upon elsewhere in this contract. The contractor (seller) acknowledges that all warranties granted to the buyer by the Uniform Commercial Code of the State of Utah applies to this contract. Product liability disclaimers and/or warranty disclaimers from the seller are not applicable to this contract unless otherwise specified and mutually agreed upon elsewhere in this contract. In general, the contractor warrants that: (1) the product will do what the salesperson said it would do, (2) the product will live up to all specific claims that the manufacturer makes in their

- advertisements, (3) the product will be suitable for the ordinary purposes for which such product is used, (4) the product will be suitable for any special purposes that the State has relied on the contractor's skill or judgement to consider when it advised the State about the product, (5) the product has been properly designed and manufactured, and (6) the product is free of significant defects or unusual problems about which the State has not been warned. Remedies available to the State include the following: The contractor will repair or replace (at no charge to the State) the product whose nonconformance is discovered and made known to the contractor in writing. If the repaired and/or replaced product proves to be inadequate, or fails of its essential purpose, the contractor will refund the full amount of any payments that have been made. Nothing in this warranty will be construed to limit any rights or remedies the State of Utah may otherwise have under this contract.
- **7. DIVISION APPROVAL:** Purchase orders placed, or contracts written, with the state of Utah, as a result of this bid, will not to be legally binding without the written approval of the director of the DIVISION.
- 8. AWARD OF CONTRACT: (a) the contract will to be awarded with reasonable promptness, by written notice, to the lowest responsible bidder that meets the specifications. Consideration will to be given to the quality of the product(s) to be supplied, conformity to the specifications, the purpose for which required, delivery time required, discount terms and other criteria set forth in this invitation to bid. (b) The bids are opened publicly in the presence of one or more witnesses. the name of each bidder, and the amount of the bid is recorded. Each bid, and the record, is open to public inspection. (c) The DIVISION may accept any item or group of items, or overall low bid. the DIVISION has the right to cancel this invitation to bid at any time prior to the award of contract. (d) The DIVISION can reject any and all bids. And it can waive any informality, or technicality in any bid received, if the DIVISION believes it would serve the best interest of the State. (e) Before, or after, the award of a contract the DIVISION has the right to inspect the bidder's premises and all business records to determine the holder's ability to meet contract requirements. (f) DIVISION does not guarantee to make any purchase under awarded contract(s). Estimated quantities are for bidding purposes only, and not to be interpreted as a guarantee to purchase any amount. (g) Utah has a reciprocal preference law which will to be applied against bidders bidding products or services produced in states which discriminate against Utah products. For details see Section 63-56 20.5 -20.6, Utah Code Annotated.
- **9. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ACT:** The bidder agrees to abide by the provisions of the Utah Anti-discrimination Act, Title 34 Chapter 35, U.C.A. 1953, as amended, and Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000e), which prohibit discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment, or any applicant or recipient of services, on the basis of race, religion, color, or national origin; and further agrees to abide by Executive Order No. 11246, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; 45 CFR 90 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disabilities. Also bidder agrees to abide by Utah's Executive Order, dated March 17, 1993, which prohibits sexual harassment in the workplace. Vendor must include this provision in every subcontract or purchase order relating to purchases by the State of Utah to insure that the subcontractors and vendors are bound by this provision.
- 10. DEBARMENT: The CONTRACTOR certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction (contract) by any governmental department or agency. If the CONTRACTOR cannot certify this statement, attach a written explanation for review by the STATE.
- **11. GOVERNING LAWS AND REGULATIONS:** All state purchases are subject to the Utah Procurement Code, Title 63 Chapter 56 U.C.A. 1953, as amended, and the Procurement Regulations as adopted by the Utah State Procurement Policy Board. These are available on the Internet at www.purchasing.utah.gov

(Revision 14 Mar 2003 - IFB Instructions)

ATTACHMENT A: STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. **AUTHORITY:** Provisions of this contract are pursuant to the authority set forth in 63-56, <u>Utah Code Annotated</u>, 1953, as amended, Utah State Procurement Rules (<u>Utah Administrative Code</u> Section R33), and related statutes which permit the State to purchase certain specified services, and other approved purchases for the State.
- 2. **CONTRACT JURISDICTION, CHOICE OF LAW, AND VENUE:** The provisions of this contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Utah. The parties will submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Utah for any dispute arising out of this Contract or the breach thereof. Venue shall be in Salt Lake City, in the Third Judicial District Court for Salt Lake County.
- 3. **LAWS AND REGULATIONS:** Any and all supplies, services and equipment furnished will comply fully with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.
- 4. **RECORDS ADMINISTRATION:** The Contractor shall maintain, or supervise the maintenance of all records necessary to properly account for the payments made to the Contractor for costs authorized by this contract. These records shall be retained by the Contractor for at least four years after the contract terminates, or until all audits initiated within the four years, have been completed, whichever is later. The Contractor agrees to allow State and Federal auditors, and State Agency Staff, access to all the records to this contract, for audit and inspection, and monitoring of services. Such access will be during normal business hours, or by appointment.
- 5. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Contractor represents that none of its officers or employees are officers or employees of the State of Utah, unless disclosure has been made in accordance with 67-16-8, Utah Code Annotated, 1953, as amended.
- 6. **CONTRACTOR, AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR:** The Contractor shall be an independent contractor, and as such, shall have no authorization, express or implied, to bind the State to any agreements, settlements, liability, or understanding whatsoever, and agrees not to perform any acts as agent for the State, except as herein expressly set forth. Compensation stated herein shall be the total amount payable to the Contractor by the State. The Contractor shall be responsible for the payment of all income tax and social security amounts due as a result of payments received from the State for these contract services. Persons employed by the State and acting under the direction of the State shall not be deemed to be employees or agents of the Contractor.
- 7. **INDEMNITY CLAUSE:** The Contractor agrees to indemnify, save harmless, and release the State OF UTAH, and all its officers, agents, volunteers, and employees from and against any and all loss, damages, injury, liability, suits, and proceedings arising out of the performance of this contract which are caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the Contractor's officers, agents, volunteers, or employees, but not for claims arising from the State's sole negligence.
- 8. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CLAUSE:** The Contractor agrees to abide by the provisions of Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42USC 2000e) which prohibits discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment or any applicant or recipient of services, on the basis of race, religion, color, or national origin; and further agrees to abide by Executive Order No. 11246, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; 45 CFR 90 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disabilities. Also, the Contractor agrees to abide by Utah's Executive Order, dated March 17, 1993, which prohibits sexual harassment in the work place.
- 9. **SEPARABILITY CLAUSE:** A declaration by any court, or any other binding legal source, that any provision of this contract is illegal and void shall not affect the legality and enforceability of any other provision of this contract, unless the provisions are mutually dependent.
- 10. **RENEGOTIATION OR MODIFICATIONS:** This contract may be amended, modified, or supplemented only by written amendment to the contract, executed by the same persons or by persons holding the same position as persons who signed the original agreement on behalf of the parties hereto, and attached to the original signed copy of the contract.
- 11. **DEBARMENT:** The Contractor certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, σ voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction (contract), by any governmental department or agency. If the Contractor cannot certify this statement, attach a written explanation for review by the State. The Contractor must notify the State Director of Purchasing within 30 days if debarred by any governmental entity during the Contract period.
- 12. **TERMINATION:** Unless otherwise stated in the Special Terms and Conditions, this contract may be terminated, with cause by either party, in advance of the specified termination date, upon written notice being given by the other party. The party in violation will be given ten (10) working days after notification to correct and cease the violations, after which the contract may be terminated for cause. This contract may be terminated without cause, in advance of the specified expiration date, by either party, upon 90 days prior written notice being given the other party. On termination of this contract, all accounts and payments will be processed according to the financial arrangements set forth herein for approved services rendered to date of termination.
- 13. **NONAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS:** The Contractor acknowledges that the State cannot contract for the payment of funds not yet appropriated by the Utah State Legislature. If funding to the State is reduced due to an order by the Legislature or the Governor, or is required by State law, or if federal funding (when applicable) is not provided, the State may terminate this contract or proportionately reduce the services and purchase obligations and the amount due from the State upon 30 days written notice. In the case that funds are not appropriated or are reduced, the State will reimburse Contractor for products delivered or services performed through the date of cancellation or reduction, and the State will not be liable for any future commitments, penalties, or liquidated damages.
- 14. **SALES TAX EXEMPTION:** The State of Utah's sales and use tax exemption number is E33399. The tangible personal property or services being purchased are being paid from State funds and used in the exercise of that entity's essential functions. If the items being purchased are construction materials, they will be converted into real property by employees of this government entity, unless otherwise stated in the contract.
- 15. WARRANTY: The contractor agrees to warrant and assume responsibility for all products (including hardware, firmware, and/or software products) that it licenses, contracts, or sells to the State of Utah under this contract for a period of one year, unless otherwise specified and mutually agreed upon elsewhere in this contract. The contractor (seller) acknowledges that all warranties granted to the buyer by the Uniform Commercial Code of the State of Utah apply to this contract. Product liability disclaimers and/or warranty disclaimers from the seller are not applicable to this contract unless otherwise specified and mutually agreed upon elsewhere in this contract. In general, the contractor warrants that: (1) the product will do what the salesperson said it would do, (2) the product will live up to all specific claims that the manufacturer makes in their advertisements, (3) the product will be suitable for the ordinary purposes for which such product is used, (4) the product will be suitable

for any special purposes that the State has relied on the contractor's skill or judgment to consider when it advised the State about the product, (5) the product has been properly designed and manufactured, and (6) the product is free of significant defects or unusual problems about which the State has not been warned. Remedies available to the State include the following: The contractor will repair or replace (at no charge to the State) the product whose nonconformance is discovered and made known to the contractor in writing. If the repaired and/or replaced product proves to be inadequate, or fails of its essential purpose, the contractor will refund the full amount of any payments that have been made. Nothing in this warranty will be construed to limit any rights or remedies the State of Utah may otherwise have under this contract.

- 16. **PUBLIC INFORMATION:** Contractor agrees that the contract will be a public document, and may be available for distribution. and Contractor gives the State express permission to make copies of the contract and/or of the response to the solicitation in accordance with the State of Utah Government Records Access and Management Act. The permission to make copies as noted will take precedence over any statements of confidentiality, proprietary information, copyright information, or similar notation.
- 17. **DELIVERY:** Unless otherwise specified in this contract, all deliveries will be F.O.B. destination with all transportation and handling charges paid by the Contractor. Responsibility and liability for loss or damage will remain with Contractor until final inspection and acceptance when responsibility will pass to the State except as to latent defects, fraud and Contractor's warranty obligations.
- 18. **ORDERING AND INVOICING:** All orders will be shipped promptly in accordance with the delivery schedule. The Contractor will promptly submit invoices (within 30 days of shipment or delivery of services) to the State. The State contract number and/or the agency purchase order number shall be listed on all invoices, freight tickets, and correspondence relating to the contract order. The prices paid by the State will be those prices listed in the contract. The State has the right to adjust or return any invoice reflecting incorrect pricing.
- 19. **PAYMENT:** Payments are normally made within 30 days following the date the order is delivered or the date a correct invoice is received, whichever is later. All payments to the Contractor will be remitted by mail unless paid by the State of Utah's Purchasing Card.
- 20. **PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, ETC.:** The Contractor will release, indemnify and hold the State, its officers, agents and employees harmless from liability of any kind or nature, including the Contractor's use of any copyrighted or un-copyrighted composition, secret process, patented or un-patented invention, article or appliance furnished or used in the performance of this contract.
- 21. **ASSIGNMENT/SUBCONTRACT:** Contractor will not assign, sell, transfer, subcontract or sublet rights, or delegate responsibilities under this contract, in whole or in part, without the prior written approval of the State.
- 22. **DEFAULT AND REMEDIES:** Any of the following events will constitute cause for the State to declare Contractor in default of the contract:

 1. Nonperformance of contractual requirements; 2. A material breach of any term or condition of this contract. The State will issue a written notice of default providing a ten (10) day period in which Contractor will have an opportunity to cure. Time allowed for cure will not diminish or eliminate Contractor's liability for damages. If the default remains, after Contractor has been provided the opportunity to cure, the State may do one or more of the following:

 1. Exercise any remedy provided by law;

 2. Terminate this contract and any related contracts or portions thereof;

 3. Impose liquidated damages, if liquidated damages are listed in the contract;

 4. Suspend Contractor from receiving future solicitations.
- 23. **FORCE MAJEURE:** Neither party to this contract will be held responsible for delay or default caused by fire, riot, acts of God and/or war which is beyond that party's reasonable control. The State may terminate this contract after determining such delay or default will reasonably prevent successful performance of the contract.
- 24. **PROCUREMENT ETHICS**: The Contractor understands that a person who is interested in any way in the sale of any supplies, services, construction, or insurance to the State of Utah is violating the law if the person gives or offers to give any compensation, gratuity, contribution, loan or reward, or any promise thereof to any person acting as a procurement officer on behalf of the State, or who in any official capacity participates in the procurement of such supplies, services, construction, or insurance, whether it is given for their own use or for the use or benefit of any other person or organization (63-56-73, <u>Utah Code Annotated</u>, 1953, as amended).
- 25. **CONFLICT OF TERMS:** Contractor Terms and Conditions that apply must be in writing and attached to the contract. No other Terms and Conditions will apply to this contract including terms listed or referenced on a Contractor's website, terms listed in a Contractor quotation/sales order, etc. In the event of any conflict in the contract terms and conditions, the order of precedence shall be: 1. State Standard Terms and Conditions; 2. State Special Terms and Conditions; 3. Contractor Terms and Conditions.

(Revision date: Nov 21, 2003)

STATE OF UTAH DIVISION OF PURCHASING

BOND STATEMENT

BIDDING REQUIREMENTS

A 5% bid bond or cashier's check is required by all vendors bidding on this project. The bid bond must be attached to bid or it will be disqualified. Checks submitted will be returned certified mail after an official award has been made.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS

A 100% performance/payment bond will be required from the award vendor within 14 days after notification of award. Bonds must be in the form of a cashiers checks (no personal or business checks) or a surety bond from a licensed surety company doing business in the State of Utah.

Performance/payment bonds (or checks) will be **held as security for a period of 12 months after completion of project, per state law.** Checks submitted will be returned certified mail only after this specified time. Bidders name must be the same on both the bid forms and all bonds submitted.

Please indicate which i	method of bonding will be used	if awarded this job:	
	100% CASHIERS CHECK		
	_ 100% PERFORMAN	NCE/PAYMENT BOND	
	Bond/Ins. Company		
	Agent Name		
	Fax #	_ Phone #	

Upon awarding, the requesting agency will fax a verification to the bonding company listed above to start the bonding process. It is then the responsibility of the vendor or follow through with their bonding agent to assure the bond is processed. After the bonding company sends the bond to vendor for signatures, it is the responsibility of the vendor to mail or hand carry the <u>original bond</u> (no copies or faxes accepted) to the requesting agency, to the attention of the contract person listed on the bid. **No work can commence until the requesting agency has receipt of this performance/payment bond**. After this time the contract will be officially released to the award vendor.